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Wilcox-Neagle Producing Team Arrive For Odette Premiere



Anno Neagle and Herbert Wilcox arrive in Toronto by plane from New York for the North-American Premiere of their latest picture, *Odette*, produced and directed by Herbert Wilcox and starring Anna Neagle and Trevor Howard. Star and producer made personal appearances on the stage of the Imperial Theatre (Famous Players Canadian) at Toronto, Thursday, December 8th, leaving immediately after for Montreal.

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STREET / ROUTE

RKO TO RELEASE 32 IN '51 —10 IN TECHNICOLOR

To a large, enthusiastic audience of exhibitors, press and radio representatives, Robert Mochrie, RKO Sales Manager and Vice-President in charge of domestic distribution, presented a vivid word-picture of the line-up of 32 productions which RKO will offer to Canadian exhibitors in the calendar year 1951, this week in Toronto. Accompanying Mr. Mochrie on his trip to Canada were Charles Boasberg, Division Manager, Carl Peppercorn, Assistant to Mr. Boasberg, Barret McCormick, Director of Advertising, Terry Turner, in charge of exploitation, and Hank Howard, RKO publicity dept. fieldman. Other out-of-towners at the meeting included RKO-men from the company's exchanges from coast to coast.

Introducing Mr. Mochrie to the gathering, J. J. Fitzgibbons, President of Famous Players Canadian Corp. spoke briefly of his long and friendly association with him, mentioning the importance of picking out the particular things in a picture which would appeal to some people, rather than generalizing about pictures being bad or good.

Mr. Mochrie introduced his remarks by saying that on January 2nd, RKO's theatre company and picture company would become entirely separate; "no longer can we depend upon theatre profits to throw into the production and distribution of pictures," he said. In consideration of this fact, and also of the importance of the role played by the movies in furnishing entertainment to the peoples of the world, RKO has endeavored, Mr. Mochrie said, over the past months to put together the strongest group of pictures possible. For the first time, an entire year's product is either finished or in production. "In other words," said Mr. Mochrie, "it's not blue sky."

The pictures in the group of 32 come both from the RKO lot and from independent producers. Of interest to Canadian exhibitors will be the fact that all of the new product (with the exception of the Disneys and the Goldwyns) will be sold as part of the regular product and not separately. This includes the much-publicized Wald-Krasna group of pictures.

Touching on certain highlight pictures in the group, Mr. Mochrie mentioned *Jet Pilot*, starring John Wayne in Technicolor, which will be released in late June or early July. Another Technicolor feature, to be released in late May is *The Sons of The Musketeers*, starring Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara.

Out of the program at least nine, possibly ten pictures will be in Technicolor, depending on which Goldwyn picture is released first. At present, Mr. Goldwyn's plans centre on two stories: the story of Hans Christian Anderson, to be photographed in Technicolor, with ballet sequences starring Moira Shearer of the Sadlers Wells Ballet Company and *Red Shoes* fame; and a sequel to *The Best Years of Our Lives*, one of the biggest-grossing pictures of all time.

Speaking of the Disney product, Mr. Mochrie mentioned his pride at having sold Disney pictures for over ten years. "Aside from making good pictures which make money, Disney has done this industry more good than any other production name by consistently producing good, clean, fine family entertainment." The Disney release for August will be *Alice in Wonderland*, which has been four years in the making and is in the real Disney tradition of *Snow White* and *Cinderella*. In order to pre-sell his picture, Disney has created a full-hour program to be broadcast on a coast-to-coast TV hookup on Christmas day as a trailer for *Alice in Wonderland*. "This," said Mr. Mochrie, "strikes me as a smart use of TV to help motion pictures."

Discussing the pictures from Howard Hawks, Mr. Mochrie mentioned *The Big Sky*, adapted from the best-selling novel by A. B. Guthrie and *The Thing*, a semi-science fiction film. Mr. Mochrie's short recital of the plot of *The Thing*, having to do with Flying Saucers and creatures from other continents had an obviously intriguing effect on his somewhat jaded audience of exhibitors and newspapermen, which augers well for the interest which will be stirred up among the public when the teaser campaign on the pictures starts in national magazines next month.

From Sol Lesser, Mr. Mochrie spoke of *Kon-Tiki*, presently topping the non-fiction best-seller list and also showing to all-time record-breaking runs in Scandinavia. The picture will be released here in April.

Coming last but not least to Wald and Krasna, Mr. Mochrie talked in particular about two of their pictures, *Exclusive Model* and *Cowpoke*. Being scripted and shot in Paris, *Exclusive Model* deals with the life in the high couturier salons in Paris. *Cowpoke* is strictly native American material, having to do with the professional cowboys who travel around with the big rodeos.

In closing, Mr. Mochrie spoke of the great Canadian audience of 4 or 5 million people who go into theatres each week. "For two or three hours," he

(Continued on Page 6)

Vancouver News

JACK DROY

KEVIN FITZGIBBONS of Famous Players drive-in section is a Vancouver visitor . . . Joe Archer, old-time film exchange manager, now in charge of Foto-Nite here, reported that the give-away idea is proving popular in British Columbia theatres which include most of Famous Players houses here . . . Maynard Joiner, Famous Player supervisor is away to Toronto to attend the Dominion meeting of the Canadian Exhibitors Association.

* * *

Paul Harmon, former exhibitor, is now President of Western Flameproofers who are Canadian distributors of Flamort Fire Retardants. Harmon reports that business is tops and the company recently moved into larger quarters in Vancouver's east end.

* * *

Frank Fisher, Canadian head of Eagle-Lion, who was here for a week, said that E-L British pictures are doing excellent business in most Canadian key cities, in many cases outgrossing top Hollywood productions; also that *Red Shoes* and *Hamlet* will be released in January 1950. *Hamlet* will play at regular prices this time. Fisher will visit Calgary and Winnipeg in his return trip to Toronto.

* * *

Gaumont-Kalee British Equipment company will install complete equipment in the new Lions Drive-in in North Vancouver, including in-car speakers.

* * *

Jack McCausland, Famous Players construction head, said the chain is not interested in any further outdoor theatres in British Columbia at the present time. To date FPC have only one in British Columbia—at Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. Odeon Circuit have no drive-in theatres in B.C. and have no plans to build any, local officials said. There are still two outdoor theatres operating in B.C.—the Cascades here and the Kelowna outdoor spot in the B.C. interior. Business is on the light side which is to be expected so late in the season.

* * *

George Formby, British stage star, and his troupe grossed over \$22,000 in three days here, and \$7,000 in a one-day stand at Victoria. He is expected back in 1951.

* * *

The Queen Theatre in the east end now on a straight film policy has discontinued matinee performances and opens at 6 p.m. The small seat Star Theatre also on skid row is closed. It was taken over by a group of Chinese a few months ago.

RAY PRESENTS



LAST week was a busy week for executives and trade press here in Toronto, starting the week off with a meeting of the National Committee of the Canadian Exhibitors' Associations, a two-day session of meetings of the Canadian Motion Picture Industry Council, and on Thursday, in the very early hours, close to Wednesday midnight, Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox arrived for the premiere

showing of *Odette*, the story of a British Agent, but this time the British Agent is a woman, a real woman whose name is Odette Churchill (Mrs. Peter Churchill) but not of the family of the former Prime Minister of England.

Oscar R. Hanson, who is distributing this picture, *Odette*, through his own company, Pioneer Films Limited, while in England laid the foundation for a visit of the Wilcoxs to Canada for the premiere showing of *Odette*, and while John J. Fitzgibbons was in England, he stressed the importance of the visit of stars and producers to Canada, just as he had stressed such importance so successfully to Hollywood, in connection with the premiere showings of important pictures, and in the interest of good public relations, and box-office.

THE Queen Elizabeth, on which Herbert Wilcox and Anna Neagle sailed, was twenty-four hours late in docking at New York due to heavy gales, and this upset the timing schedule of a series of events in Toronto. However, Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox finally landed, and were able to get a plane to Toronto from N.Y., which arrived about 1.30 A.M. giving them an opportunity for a few hours of sleep before the press interviews commenced, the televising at the Imperial Theatre, the luncheon, the broadcast, the cocktail party, the dinner, and the personal appearances of star and producer-director at the Imperial Theatre for the premiere showing of the picture.

Toronto gave the distinguished visitors a day of dirty weather, which was the dirtiest of its kind, continued rain and strong wind, all day long and into the night. But gracious and smiling Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox took the weather in their stride, with nary a complaint, typical of these two splendid troupers.

The Wilcox-Neagle program of events on Thursday was not the only program which had executives of Famous Players and Paramount Pictures on the move, and which attracted the attention of the film trade, radio, television and the public, for on this day there was the opening of Canada's first Television Clinic, with a luncheon on Thursday at which Paul Raibourn, Paramount Pictures vice-president, was guest speaker. This first annual television clinic was sponsored by the Academy of Radio Arts.

I WILL return to the television story following the story of the visit to Toronto of Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox, whom you know I was mighty glad to see again. I listened to Anna and her husband-producer, tell of their experiences prior to the production of *Odette*, and during its production, the public reaction to the picture in several European countries where it had been presented.

Prior to the production of the story of *Odette*, producer and star visited with Odette the prisons and scenes of Odette's experiences, and at times it seemed to them that it would be impossible to produce and enact the power of the *Odette* story, to bring to it and the character of Odette that authenticity which star and producer-director felt must be breathed into such a picture to do the *Odette* story justice.

IT WAS Odette Churchill who desired that this story should be picturized, not for the story as it related itself to her personally, but as a tribute to the other twelve women who were executed in the prison where Odette was under sentence of death, and as a tribute to the many other splendid women who gave such heroic service in World War II at the risk of more than life.

In France, the highest honour which can be bestowed on any woman, the Military Order of the Legion of Honour, was bestowed on Odette Churchill, and in the citation it was declared that "This woman and this woman alone knew what the enemy wished to know."

Odette was tortured mentally and physically, but she repeated and reiterated, to her torturers and interrogators, "I have nothing to say." Waking, sleeping, during beatings, starvation for ten days, in a dark cell, in solitary confinement for twelve weeks, Odette Churchill repeated in consciousness and unconsciousness, "I have nothing to say."

A NNA NEAGLE was appalled at her story. How could she, how could any woman do the incredible things which Odette had done, how could she convey in her characterization such heroism? But Odette Churchill quietly told Anna, "I could not imagine myself doing what I did, but you would do it, for when you must, you do it."

On receiving the Awards for Gallantry, the Legion of Honour and George Cross, Odette accepted them, "Not for myself, but for my comrades who did not come back."

Anna Neagle said she will never forget the premiere of the film in Paris for when the picture was over, Odette Churchill walked on the stage, and the Premier of France, and the entire audience stood up and for close to ten minutes paid tribute to this woman. "Odette did what no professional woman would have done," added Herbert Wilcox, "Odette stood absolutely motionless, she did not bow, she did not curtsy, it was the most impressive and moving thing which we have ever seen." Incidentally, Herbert Wilcox stated that the cost of the production has already been made in the box-office receipts in France and in Brussels.

THE Wilcox determination to keep the *Odette* film authentic brought into the picture Colonel M. J. Buckmaster, who directed the sabotage and underground work in France from England during World War II, and who does the foreword in the picture, verifying the accuracy of the *Odette* story.

Anna Neagle's return to drama is a dramatic and powerful return, and she adds another famous characterization to those she has already made illustrious.

If you can digest strong meat, Odette is yours for an appreciative and interesting experience. I was so interested in the picture that I quite forgot the time-element of the departure for Montreal of Anna and Herbert, and missed seeing them off to Montreal, much to my regret.

Odette has a love-story, but it only suggests itself to you. It is the story of the meeting of Peter Churchill and Odette, both performing for the same service, and how, when both were taken prisoners, Odette saved the life of Peter and herself by telling the Nazis that Peter Churchill was a kinsman of the War Prime Minister of England, and the Nazi officers saved them both, battered as they were, to use as a bargaining power when the Americans entered Paris.

(Continued on Page 15)

Toronto and District

BILL PRESS

WITH theatre construction now at low level following the flurry subsequent to World War Two, what may be hit hardest by the new steel ban are the fairly numerous drive-in theatre projects which are in the making for next spring.

In Toronto, a Biltmore unit is approaching completion at the corner of Yonge and Gerrard Streets and it will not be affected by the government edict. At Brantford, Famous Players has been remodelling an important theatre since the beginning of September and this reconstruction can be finished.

* * *

Manager Wanie Tyers of the Toronto Odeon is making a specialty of military parades to the Carlton Street theatre. The latest was the 48th Highlanders, the members of which were guests on the night of the Army Show broadcast, along with "Two Flags West."

* * *

Ernie Rawley, manager of the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, has been appointed general manager for the fourth Canadian Ballet Festival which is already being organized for the spring of 1952 with companies expected to come from many of the leading centres across the Dominion.

* * *

Following the destruction by fire of St. Eugene's Catholic Church in suburban North York, the Glendale Theatre of 20th Century Theatres, on Avenue Road, was immediately made available to Rev. Melville Bolan, parish priest, for the holding of masses.

* * *

At the first meeting of the new executive of Variety Tent 28 held Monday, December 11th, the following officers were elected to serve for the coming season: Chief Barker, Jack Chisholm; first assistant chief barker, Ernest Bushnell; second assistant chief barker, R. W. Bolstad; property master, Sam Wacker, dough guy, Dan Krendel. Immediate past chief barker Morris Stein, who presided over the meeting, was elected International Canvasman. Other members of the executive are: Joe Ziegler, Jack Arthur, Herb Allen, Lorne Greene, Ernest Rawley and D. V. Rosen.

* * *

The Toronto Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Sir Ernest McMillan, gave two concerts, matinee and evening, on Nov. 29 at the Palace Theatre, Hamilton, under the auspices of the McMaster University Alumni Association.



J. J. CHISHOLM

elected Chief Barker of Toronto Variety Tent 28.

The Cavanaugh Bros. of Hamilton are one of the reasons for the big smile on George Oulahan's face on account of their super art work on his Foto-Nite ad. (See our back page.)

* * *

The Iron Crown played a holdover engagement, on the strength of excellent business, at the Community Theatre, which caters to the discriminating film fans of Hamilton.

* * *

The following pictures have been graded "Adult" in Ontario: Shakedown, The Return of Jesse James, No Way Out, Gelosia, Born to Be Bad and A Life of Her Own.

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RAY LEWIS

Editor-in-Chief

JACKIE ROSS

Assistant to the Editor

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— Correspondents —

A. L. FAIRWEATHER.....Saint John, N.B.

J. J. CONKLIN.....Winnipeg, Man.

BRUCE PEACOCK.....Regina, Sask.

JACK DROY.....Vancouver, B.C.

WILL McLAUGHLIN.....Ottawa, Ont.

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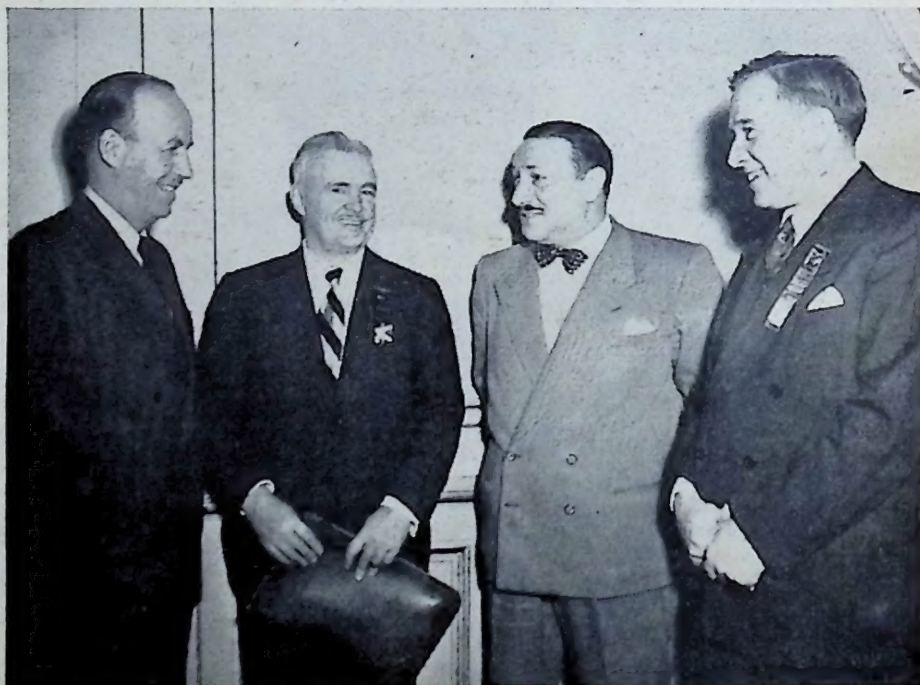
After playing an engagement at the London Capitol, My Blue Heaven was moved over to the Patricia Theatre in that city for further showings in conjunction with a companion feature, Farewell to Yesterday.

* * *

Manager James Hardiman of the Odeon Theatre, London, was perhaps the first to stage a Christmas party in aid of needy children. On the morning of Dec. 2 he conducted a free performance under a new or used toy to be used as a gift for some underprivileged child.

* * *

At The First Annual Canadian Television Clinic



R. W. Bolstad of Famous Players, chatting with Paul Raibourne, Paramount V.P. and Guest speaker, Gordon Lightstone, Paramount's Canadian General Manager and J. J. Fitzgibbons, Famous Players.

TRADE HEADLINES

Three-year-old Asa Jolson receives Civilian Order of merit posthumously awarded his foster-father from General Mashall, U.S. Secretary of Defence.

Bergman, Rossellini to make a picture in France.

Legal knots occasioned by clearances, etc., delay Phonevision test still further despite cooperation of all major and minor production companies, except 20th-Fox in supplying product.

UA producers once again on the rampage — said to be considering legal suit against UA which would put the company into bankruptcy.

Columbia Pictures shows quarterly net profit of \$290,000 — a drop of \$47,000 from equivalent period last year.

Random House to publish complete screen play of the 20th-Fox picture, All About Eve, by Joseph L. Mankiewicz — plans for more such books if All About Eve script successful.

Anglo-U.S. film agreement formally signed in New York — American film companies may remit annually \$17 million of their earnings in Great Britain.

Bill filed in Massachusetts legislature which would compel exhibitors to mark re-issues with 6-inch-high letters in external house advertising — also to show the date on which the picture was originally screened in the state.

Howard Deitz announces MGM has increased promotional field pressmen to 18, working under him and Dan Terrell.

Filmack Trailer Co. appoints Film Art Trailer Service, Toronto, as Canadian distributors — S. L. Vinsen, pres. Film Art.

Fox and Warners receive extension until Jan. 15, 1951, for filing divorcement plans by Federal Court, U.S.

400 U.S. films dubbed in Italy, MGM topping list with 47.

Consolidated Theatres of Montreal declare 10 cent dividend Class B stock and 12 cents Class A stock payable Dec. 1.

George Bernard Shaw Reported To Have Earned over \$700,000 in royalties for New York showings of his plays and screen-adapted stories.

Gloria Swanson Signed by Daniel M. Angel Productions for lead in Another Man's Poison, London.

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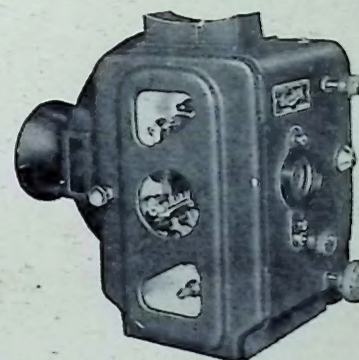
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CAPITAL STORY

By BILL McLAUGHLIN

WITH Christmas just around the corner, theatre managers and their assistants are going all out to break records for the sale of tickets in book form. The campaign stresses the convenience of booklets at any time throughout the years and as an ideal Christmas gift for all members of the family and their friends. Managers are quick to realize that movie theatre booklets in the hands of thousands of people is one way of successfully combatting the opposition, especially the Monster Bingo epidemic which has got to a point where as many as four sessions in one week have attracted more than 20,000 people (mostly women and young girls) to the Auditorium and Coliseum.

* * *

Mrs. (Eleanor) Beavis, wife of the genial Odeon Theatre manager and a popular figure in the social affairs of local showmen, is a patient in Ottawa Civic Hospital. Mrs. Beavis underwent a serious operation, is now resting nicely and is expected to leave for home within a week or ten days.

* * *

Christmas decorations in and outside theatres promise to be more elaborate than ever this year. Restrictions imposed by Hydro Electric in recent winters have been lifted and managers are taking full advantage of the opportunity to light up their marquees and lobby trees with novel colored light effects. Theatre operators are not overlooking the fact that school will soon be out and are planning screen shows of appeal to both the youngsters and grown-ups over the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

* * *

Ernie Warren, division supervisor for 20th Century Theatres and resident manager of the Elgin and Little Elgin Theatres, is looking forward with anticipation to the first big fall of snow. A ski enthusiast, Ernie has a lodge in the Gatineau Hills which he winterized during the past months, and will keep open house for his many friends among devotees of the sport which has a large following in the capital city.

* * *

The one-day engagement of the Sadler's Wells Ballet at the Capital Theatre early in the new year has added to Ray Tubman's headaches as manager of Famous Players' ace movie house. Hundreds of ballet lovers have been calling Ray at his office . . . and far into the night at home . . . begging him to hold out tickets for either matinee or evening performance. In order to give everybody an equal chance, no

mail or phone orders were taken, and when the sale opened at the Capitol every available ticket was sold before the end of the day. With the house sold out and with hundreds of people (many of them close friends) making his life miserable with requests for unobtainable ducats, Ray is thinking about making an early start on his annual Winter vacation at Miami Beach.

RKO TO RELEASE

(Continued from Page 2)

said, "they forget their troubles, they laugh a little, cry a little, forget themselves, and come out feeling a little better for it. In these troubled days, we must console ourselves that, in this small way, we are doing our task, not only in the United States and Canada, but all over the world."

The theatre managing fraternity has lost one of its youngest and most popular members with the resignation of Leslie Jefferies from the Nelson Theatre. Les was forced to give up show business because of poor health and on the advice of his doctor. He has been replaced at the Nelson (20th Century) Theatre by Bill Curley.

* * *

Movie-goers in Greater Ottawa and surrounding areas were kept informed on municipal election standings Monday night, December 4. Uptown theatre managers had direct tie-ups with newspapers and relayed returns to their audience via screen slides. The smaller neighborhood and suburban houses tuned in on the local radio station for the election results.



Suzanne Cloutier, daughter of Edmond Cloutier, C.M.G.,
King's Printer, Ottawa.

The New York Herald Tribune, Paris, carried the story recently that Suzanne Cloutier was appearing in a play produced by Orson Welles at the Edouard VII Theatre. Miss Cloutier is now appearing in a French-language film distributed by France-Films in Canada and playing currently at the Cinema de Paris in Montreal. The title of the film is *Royaume de Ciel* (The Kingdom of Heaven.)



RKO

**MEETS
THE
CHALLENGE
OF
1951...**



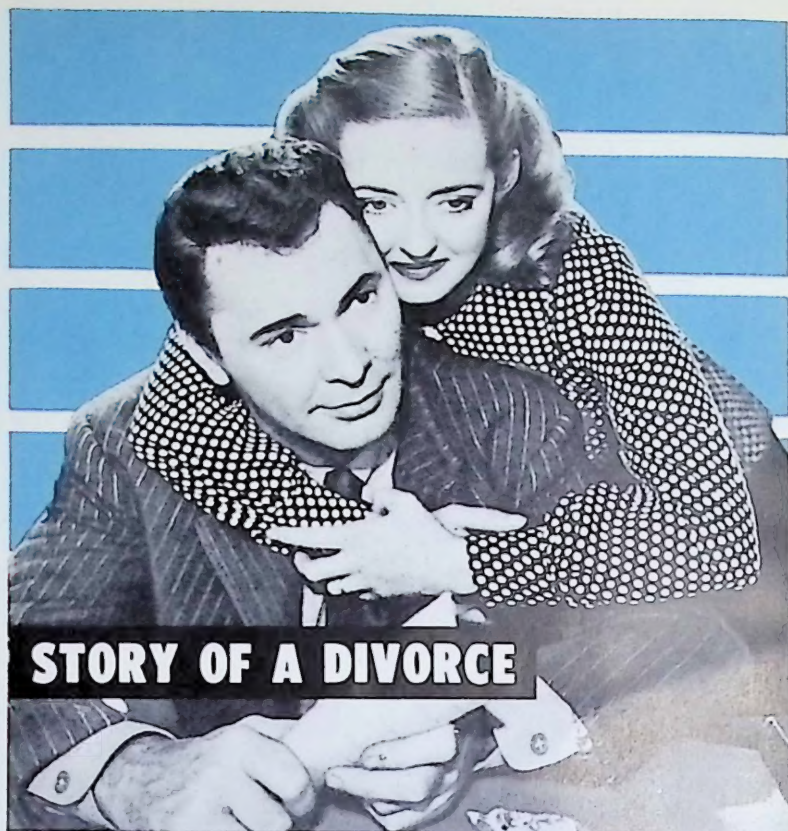
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for every showdate
of the year...January
through December...**

**AND HERE
IT IS!...**



HIS KIND OF WOMAN

The perfect action-romance story for **ROBERT MITCHUM** and **JANE RUSSELL**. A John Farrow Production, with **VINCENT PRICE**, **TIM HOLT** and **CHARLES McGRAW**. Produced by Robert Sparks. Directed by John Farrow.



STORY OF A DIVORCE

Jack H. Skirball and Bruce Manning present **BETTE DAVIS** and **BARRY SULLIVAN** in a powerhouse family drama, with **JANE COWL**, **KENT TAYLOR**, **BETTY LYNN**. Produced by Jack H. Skirball. Directed by Curtis Bernhardt.



THE COMPANY SHE KEEPS

Striking drama of a girl prisoner and of life "outside", starring **LIZBETH SCOTT**, **JANE GREER** and **DENNIS O'KEEFE**. Produced by John Houseman. Directed by John Cromwell.



GAMBLING HOUSE

VICTOR MATURE, **TERRY MOORE**, **WILLIAM BENDIX** in high-tension action melodrama. Produced by Warren Duff. Directed by Ted Tetzlaff.

IS IT HUMAN OR INHUMAN?
EARTHLY OR UNEARTHLY?
WILL IT DESTROY US ALL?

THE THING

THE THING

Showmanship at its exciting peak! A fearsome, thrilling, out-of-this-world exploitation special! Players to fit hitherto unheard-of roles! Produced by star-maker Howard Hawks. Directed by Christian Nyby. A Winchester Production.



THE GAUNT WOMAN

DANA ANDREWS, CARLA BALENDA, CLAUDE RAINS in the exciting sea-spy and romance melodrama made from the best-selling novel and Saturday Evening Post serial by Edmund Gilligan. Produced by Warren Duff. Directed by Alfred Werker.



TARZAN'S PERIL

First of the famed Tarzan pictures to be filmed on actual location in the heart of wildest Africa itself. LEX BARKER, VIRGINIA HUSTON, CHEETA and others in the Sol Lesser Production directed by Byron Haskin.



IT'S ONLY MONEY

Down-to-earth comedy with up-in-the-sky songs. Starring FRANK SINATRA, JANE RUSSELL, GROUCHO MARX. Produced by Irving Cummings, Jr. Directed by Irving Cummings.



MY FORBIDDEN PAST

Dark deeds and sultry romance in old New Orleans. Starring **ROBERT MITCHUM**, **AVA GARDNER**, **MELVYN DOUGLAS**, with **LUCILE WATSON**, **JANIS CARTER**. A Robert Sparks-Polan Banks Production. Directed by Robert Stevenson.



BEST OF THE BADMEN

A highest-bracket Western in color by Technicolor. Starring **ROBERT RYAN**, **CLAIRE TREVOR**, **JACK BEUTEL**, **ROBERT PRESTON**, **WALTER BRENNAN**. Directed by William D. Russell. Produced by Herman Schlom.



OPERATION "O"

A rousing, big-scale, up-to-the-minute drama of air and ground-force war in Korea, much of it filmed in actual locations in Japan and Korea. Directed by Ted Tetzlaff. Big cast to be announced.



CRY DANGER

Olympic Productions, Inc., presents a crackling mystery melodrama starring **DICK POWELL** and **RHONDA FLEMING**, with **RICHARD ERDMAN**, **WILLIAM CONRAD**, **REGIS TOOMEY**, **JEAN PORTER**. Produced by Sam Wiesenthal and W. R. Frank. Directed by Robert Parrish.



SONS OF THE MUSKETEERS

Fierce romantic adventure at its Technicolor best. Starring **CORNEL WILDE**, **MAUREEN O'HARA**, with **ROBERT DOUGLAS**, **GLADYS COOPER**, **BLANCHE YURKA**. Produced by Jerrold T. Brandt. Directed by Lewis Allen.



I MARRIED A WOMAN

The man who thought he was marrying an "angel" married just a woman! Bright, modern romantic comedy from the brilliant pen of Goodman Ace, famed wit and master of smart husband-wife repartee.



COWPOKE

The screen's first big drama of the cowboy of today! Rodeo realism plus the life-drama of a man fighting for his place in a changing world. A Wald-Krasna Production. Directed by Robert Parrish.



MOTHER OF A CHAMPION

The Filmmakers uncover the inside drama of big-time tennis. **CLAIRE TREVOR** and **SALLY FORREST** starring in an Ida Lupino Production. Produced by Collier Young. Directed by Ida Lupino.



ALICE IN WONDERLAND

WALT DISNEY'S triumph! All-cartoon musical comedy, with the voices of ED WYNN, JERRY COLONNA, STERLING HOLLOWAY, RICHARD HAYDN, KATHRYN BEAUMONT. Color by Technicolor.



MACAO

Adventure in the wickedest corner of the Orient. ROBERT MITCHUM, JANE RUSSELL, WILLIAM BENDIX, THOMAS GOMEZ, GLORIA GRAHAME in a blast of action produced by Alex Gottlieb. Directed by Josef Von Sternberg.



LET'S SEE THE GIRLS

Technicolor, music and songs, girls, big-time show personalities—a glittering world of headline entertainment merry-go-rounding the glowing heart and soul of the USO. A Wald-Krasna Production.



THE BIG SKY

A Novel by
A.B. GUTHRIE, Jr.

Winchester Productions' wide-as-the-West picturization of A. B. Guthrie's Book-Of-The-Month Club best seller. The crimson drama of the upper Missouri River frontier in 1830. Howard Hawks, Producer-Director.



JET PILOT

JOHN WAYNE, JANET LEIGH, with **JAY C. FLIPPEN** in a terrific, timely, Technicolor blending of action and romance, including most exciting air action ever filmed. Producer, Jules Furthman. Director, Josef Von Sternberg.



EXCLUSIVE MODEL

A feast of fashion and beauty, with the most beautiful models of all nations, in the romance of a young woman buyer footloose in the smartest style-salons of Paris. A Wald-Krasna Production. Color by Technicolor.



HIGH FRONTIER

The roaring story of the B-36 bombers and their readiness to take off for anywhere to deliver one or more A-Bombs. A thrilling action epic of America on the alert. Producer, Robert Sparks.



MONTANA BELLE

JANE RUSSELL and **GEORGE BRENT** in a Trucolor Western with sizzling dance-hall and outdoor action. With **SCOTT BRADY, FORREST TUCKER, ANDY DEVINE**. Produced by Howard Welsch. Associate Producer, Robert Peters. Directed by Allan Dwan.



FLYING LEATHERNECKS

The stirring, dramatic saga of U.S. Marine flyers. **JOHN WAYNE, ROBERT RYAN, DON TAYLOR, WILLIAM HARRIGAN** in a skyful of action directed by Nicholas Ray. An Edmund Grainger Production. Color by Technicolor.



Comedy-drama of the models who pose for the ads in the slick fashion magazines, told midst the glamorous and hectic world of photo studios, smart shops and tinsel cafe society. A Wald-Krasna Production.



Dramatic realism! Gasping revelations! The truth about public dance halls, screened from the first-hand account of a boy and girl who lived the life to give it to you—straight! A Wald-Krasna Production.



TONY MARTIN, JANET LEIGH, ANN MILLER, EDDIE BRACKEN, SMITH & DALE already at work. More big names on the way. Ten tunes; big dance numbers for the peak Technicolor musical. Directed by James V. Kern.

RAY PRESENTS

(Continued from Page 3)

THE script is crisp, the direction direct, much of the visual horrors of torture, are suppressed, but there is sufficient to freeze the marrow in your bones and to cause each hair upon your head to stand upright. However, the picture does not depend on its horror scenes for suspense, for action, for sustained interest and climax; the story gets over upon the screen because of the fine characterizations and because you feel that you are a spectator and a participator in an historical event.

You will think about Odette after you have seen the picture, and you will ponder on its story, on Anna Neagle as Odette, on Trevor Howard who did such excellent work in The Third Man, as Peter Churchill. You will think and think, and you will desire to see Odette again, just to convince yourself that what you saw, and afterwards felt, was in the Odette picture.

ODETTE gives you the feel of a European production, the characters (and there are many fine ones) speak the language of their environment, the settings are European, I thought of the European productions such as Open City, and Shoe Shine which had won international awards, also, although the dialogue is predominantly in English.

Odette is the answer to that sincerity and simplicity which so many critics have held up as an example in the better foreign-language films, asking, "Why cannot American and British producers and directors, convey this feeling?" I assure you Herbert Wilcox has this sincerity in his picture, Odette.

Oscar R. Hanson's reentry into distribution, for himself, starts him off with two most excellent pictures: the first, that most delightful British comedy, The Happiest Days of Your Life, which has already established itself as a box-office success, and his second picture-release, Odette, which I hope will perform the miracles on the American continent which it has performed in England and on the Continent.

I AM returning you, as they say on radio, to the Television studio, Paul Raibourne addressed the first annual television clinic at the Royal York Hotel, at a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Academy of Radio Arts on Thursday, December 7th. Mr. Raibourne gave us, not only an informative talk, for he is one of the most informed men on Television, but he is the easiest man to listen to, whom I have met in a long time. We could have listened to him for many minutes more than the time he utilized to deliver his address. I do not know how long he talked, most likely over a half-of-an-hour, but it seemed only a few minutes.

He told us of the likelihood of improvement in sets, but that the public's interest in Television discounted possible improvements, and this public continued to buy sets, knowing that such sets might become obsolete.

Television, which consumes an average of ten hours weekly in family-viewing-time, is having an important relationship to family life in America. Canada will respond in a similar fashion when stations become operative here. He related the attitude of parents, and teachers to Television, the stories they told about their children, but he cited that Television in the home could be controlled, children could see selected programs, under parental guidance.

THE Open Forum for questions brought out the information that attendance at Big Sport Events had not decreased as a result of Television, but the Sports in the "B" classification had a noticeable decrease in attendance on Televised Nights. He believed that this may repeat itself in respect to motion pictures.

We are aware that exhibitors attribute a drop in box-office receipts of 25 percent in areas where there is a large public which has Television sets, and wise and perplexed showmen are studying how Television can be harnessed to help motion picture attendance.

We know what the introduction of Sound did to the era of Silent Films, and to theatres not equipped for Sound; both had to provide for talking pictures or close up shop. Radio, at its inception, gave motion pictures a considerable fright, but this Television is not only hearing a story, but seeing it enacted.

During the many years of Radio, its reception has not been perfected, we still get interruptions, static, etc., but the present seeing and listening public is as receptive to the imperfections of Television as was the first motion picture and radio public.

Television is such a fabulous enterprise that millions of dollars will be poured into its perfection.

C. E. HOOPER, head of the Hooperating System, told the Radio and Television advertising executives, at the Television Clinic, how TV has affected radio during the past two years in the U.S.

The encroachment of TV on radio listening in the U.S. was serious. In New York and in Los Angeles, TV has 60 percent of the combined radio and television audiences and this percentage is growing. In smaller cities, such as Salt Lake City where TV has been introduced this year, the ratio is smaller, about one-third TV to two-thirds Radio. In cities where radio programs were maintained on a high level, Radio was holding its own as against a lesser quality of program on TV.

Maurice B. Mitchell, General Manager of Associated Program Services, New York, presented the viewpoint of advertisers, what they expect from TV, Multiple Impulse, creation of a desire for a product, co-ordinated attention of viewers, motion and immediacy, and demonstration before the desire to buy is formed. The speaker advised that Television delivers on all these points, therefore, is not the question of selling motion picture theatre attendance to TV viewers as much of a possibility as the selling of products? At least the motion picture theatre need not create in the mind of the listening viewer an illness of his body, such as sour breath, headache, poor digestion, insomnia, and all the other ills to which the Radio is heir, and for which they sing you remedies and relief.

I hope, in preparing TV trailers, or synopses of stories, that we exercise a little more originality and variety than we have in presenting trailers, many of which not only fail to sell a listening and viewing audience in our theatres, but unsell a potential customer.

MR. MAURICE B. MITCHELL, in concluding his address, said, "Whether Television is good or bad, it has a fatal fascination, as a result, advertisers who hang back to wait and see may eventually hang." He also said that eventually there would be 900 transmitters in the United States, and TV would not remain a vehicle for big advertisers solely, for production costs would come down.

Meanwhile, in Toronto, at the Imperial Theatre, Canadian Television was filmed, recorded and presented for the first time in Canada by Famous Players Canadian Corp. The mezzanine of the Imperial provided the stage, and Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox were interviewed by Bert Brown of Famous Players, and in an interval of a few minutes saw themselves on the Imperial screen.

(Continued on Page 19)

When RKomen Meet . . .



MARITIME NEWS

By A. L. FAIRWEATHER

NEWS of the sudden death of George N. Fielding in Kentville, N.S., came as a shock and grief to his many friends in the Maritimes and elsewhere. Mr. Fielding, who suffered a heart attack, was manager of the Empire Theatre in Kentville, N.S., and was with the F. G. Spencer Co. Ltd. for a number of years in several of that company's theatres in the Maritimes. He had been at the Empire as manager for twenty years and had formerly lived in Saint John, N.B. A. A. Fielding of Bridgewater and Percy R. Fielding of Barrington Passage are brothers. He leaves also his wife and one sister, Mrs. Frank Audas of Amherst, and one half-brother, G. K. Fielding of Coburg, Ont., to all of whom sympathy will be extended. Gerald R. Spencer and Herman Ross of the Spencer Co. Ltd., Saint John, attended the funeral which was held at Kentville conducted by the pastor of the United Church, Rev. E. L. Curry, and interment took place in the Oak Grove Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Franklin have left their home in Saint John for their winter home in Miami, Florida, going by train to New York where they spent a few days before flying to Miami.

Nicholas M. Dobbelsteyn, of the Eagle Lion staff, Saint John, was married to Miss Marion Bond at St. Peter's Church, Saint John. The groom was the recipient of a glass juice squeezer with glasses to match from his associates at Eagle Lion. The couple will reside at Saint John. The wedding ceremony was attended by many friends from Saint John and out of town and much happiness will be wished to Mr. and Mrs. Dobbelsteyn.

At United Artists Maritime office in Saint John, Mrs. Marie Melanson has resigned and Miss Mary Debly has been promoted to cashier to take her place.

The Milkman, showing at the Strand Theatre (Odeon), Saint John, was well advertised by press and on the radio, on which one of the largest dairies in the city used spots in conjunction with their regular program. The dairies placed cardboard collars around their bottles. The feature is dated for five days at the Strand. The Strand management states that their policy of having midnight shows starting early Monday morning is working out very well.

P. C. Hibbs of the Cornwall Theatre, St. John's Newfoundland, spent a few days in Saint John, N.B., en route to Toronto, Ont. Also in St. John recently were Mr. and Mrs. Victor McLaughlin of the Opera House, Newcastle, N.B.

Ernest Hatfield, manager of the Capitol Theatre at Yarmouth, N.S., has completed arrangements with a local merchant for what he thinks will be the largest Christmas Party ever held at Yarmouth. Mr. Hatfield expects about 3,000 children to be in attendance. There will be short reels, a Christmas tree, prizes and Santa Claus on the stage. The date is Dec. 20th, in the morning.

Theatres in the Maritimes have been running the trailers for the T.B. Christmas Seals appeal and thus lending their support to this worthy object.

Friends of Mrs. Walter H. Golding, Saint John, will be glad to learn that she is sufficiently recovered from a recent illness to be able to return to her home, Capitol Theatre Apartments. Mrs. Golding made and has retained many friends in the Maritimes as the wife of the late manager of the Capitol Theatre for many years and whose memory is still green in his old home.

Alan Ladd Voted Most Popular Actor

Alan Ladd has been voted the most popular actor in the world for the third consecutive year.

Ladd is the first actor in the history of Modern Screen Magazine to win their poll three years in succession.

Officials of the publication estimate that one hundred million people voted during the last three years, ample proof of Ladd's tremendous popularity with movie fans all over the globe.

Frank Sobey, mayor of Stellarton, N.S. and formerly operator of the Jubilee theatre at that place, paid a visit to Saint John recently and was greeted by many old friends in the motion picture business.

Leo Charlton, Manager of the Halifax Odeon Oxford who was married recently, will have cause to remember the "stag" given in his honor a couple of nights before his marriage, for a long time. Aided and abetted by Doug Smith, Odeon Casino manager and Halifax Odeon Divisional Supervisor, some twenty managers and their assistants and friends from Halifax theatres, gathered at the Casino to "put Leo through his paces."

To greet the groom-to-be at the head of a long flight of stairs was a life-size caricature of him—a six-foot cut-out that played a large part in winning for Mr. Charlton a showman-dizing award this spring. This, his fellow showmen had quietly borrowed from his home, and during the evening's entertainment—especially in the evening's later stages we shall say, it was the butt of practically as many good-natured jibes as was Leo in the flesh. A Halifax disk jockey who described the gala affair over the air was another highlight.

Your Maritime correspondent for twenty-eight years wishes all her friends a happy Christmas and a year of Success, Health and Happiness. And this includes the Canadian Moving Picture Digest, editors and staff.

AT THE RKO CANADIAN CONCLAVE HELD IN TORONTO THIS WEEK

TOP: RKO personnel and guests from circuits, press and radio at the luncheon held Monday at the King Edward Hotel at which Mr. Mochrie, General Sales Manager of the Company, outlined the 1951 RKO product for the assemblage.

LEFT: Ben Geldsaler, Chief buyer and booker for Famous Players, chats with Charles Boasberg, Southern and Canadian Division Manager of RKO and Morris Stein, Famous Players Eastern District Supervisor.

RIGHT: J. J. Fitzgibbons, Famous Players President, and Robert Mochrie, RKO Vice-President.

BOTTOM: Shot at one of the sessions of the RKO Canada-wide sales meeting. Head table (l. to r.) Terry Turner, RKO Exploitation Chief; Carl Peppercorn, Ass't. to Mr. Boasberg; Chas. Boasberg; Robert Mochrie. Left table: RKomen John Bastien, Toronto; Arnold Watson, St. John; Arthur Lee-White, St. John; Jimmy Davis, Vancouver; Jack Labow, Toronto; Meyer Nackimson, Winnipeg; Barry Meyers, Winnipeg; Bill Smith, Toronto.

START THE NEW YEAR WITH A SONG

BOOK

Mr. Music... Mr. Fun... and the screen's
happiest family of singing, dancing, fun-making stars...
bring you the show business story!

BING CROSBY
NANCY OLSON
CHARLES COBURN
RUTH HUSSEY

Mr. Music

with
ROBERT STACK

Tom Ewell · Charles Kemper

MARGE & GOWER CHAMPION

Produced by **ROBERT L. WELCH** - Directed by **RICHARD HAYDN**

Suggested by a Play by **Samson Raphaelson**

Written for the Screen by **Arthur Sheekman**

Lyrics by **Johnny Burke** - Music by **James Van Heusen**

A Paramount Picture

Songs!
by Burke and Van Heusen
"LIFE IS SO PECULIAR"
"ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN"
"HIGH ON THE LIST"
"AND YOU'LL BE HOME"
"WOULDN'T IT BE FUNNY"
"WASN'T I THERE"
"MILADY"
"ONCE MORE THE BLUE
AND WHITE"
"MISTER MUSIC"

Luscious
PEGGY LEE,
Songstress and Mr. Music
make the rafters ring!

GROUCHO MARX
and Mr. Music make a ter-
rific song-and-dance team!

Merry,
MERRY MACS
add their voices to Mr. Music's

DOROTHY KIRSTEN,
Metropolitan Opera Star
and Mr. Music make
beautiful music together!

**Guest
Stars!**

GROUCHO MARX
DOROTHY KIRSTEN
PEGGY LEE
THE MERRY MACS



Trans-Canada Showings

Use This Information As Your Guide on Release Dates

TORONTO

DOWNTOWN

Wyoming Mail (E-U) with Stephen McNally and Alexis Smith.

EGLINTON-VICTORIA

Tripoli (Para.) Technicolor with Maureen O'Hara and John Payne.

IMPERIAL

Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye (WB) with James Cagney.

UPTOWN

Rio Grande (E-U) Technicolor, with John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara.

ODEON-CARLTON

Two Flags West (20th-Fox) with Joseph Cotton and Linda Darnell.

INTERNATIONAL CINEMA

Second Week. Last Holiday (IFD) with Alec Guinness.

TOWNE CINEMA

6th week. City Lights (UA) with Charlie Chaplin.

UNIVERSITY-NORTOWN

Fifth week. All About Eve (20th-Fox) with Bette Davis and George Sanders.

SHEA'S

Second Week. The Jackpot (20th-Fox) with James Stewart and Barbara Hale.

LOEW'S

The Miniver Story (MGM) with Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon.

HYLAND

Sixth week. Trio (Para.) with Jean Simmons.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL

Pretty Baby (WB) with Dennis Morgan and Betsy Drake.

IMPERIAL

On The Isle of Samoa and The Palomino (Col.)

LOEW'S

Second week. Let's Dance (Para.), Technicolor, with Betty Hutton and Fred Astaire.

PALACE

Second week. Summer Stock (MGM) Technicolor with Judy Garland and Gene Kelly.

SNOWDON-OUTREMONT

A Kiss For Corliss (UA) with Shirley Temple and David Niven.

AVENUE

For Them That Trespass (IFD) with Richard Todd.

PRINCESS

Tripoli (Para.) Technicolor with John Payne and

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL

American Guerilla in the Philippines (20th-Fox), Technicolor, with Tyrone Power and Micheline Puelle.

LYCEUM

The Glass Menagerie (WB) with Jane Wyman and Kirk Douglas.

GAJETTY

Devil's Doorway (MGM) with Robert Taylor and Paula Raymond.

MET

A Life Of Her Own (MGM) with Lana Turner and Ray Milland.

ODEON

The Astonished Heart (EL) with Celia Johnson and Noel Coward.

GARRICK

Second Week. Two Flags West (20th-Fox) with Joseph Cotton and Linda Darnell.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL

The Glass Menagerie (WB) with Jane Wyman and Kirk Douglas.

PLAZA-FRAZER

So Young, So Bad (UA) with Paul Henreid and Catherine McLeod.

ORPHEUM

Second week. All About Eve (20th-Fox) with Bette Davis.

STRAND

The Jackpot (20th-Fox) with James Stewart and Barbara Hale.

VOGUE

Two Flags West (20th-Fox) with Joseph Cotton and Linda Darnell.

STUDIO

The Eternal Melody (Col.) with Jan Kipura and Marta Eggerth.

SAINT JOHN

PARAMOUNT

West Point Story (WB) with James Cagney.

CAPITOL

Pretty Baby (WB) with Dennis Morgan and Betsy Drake.

STRAND

The Milkman (E-U) and San Lorenzo (UA)

CALGARY

CAPITOL

Summer Stock (MGM) Technicolor with Judy Garland and Gene Kelly.

PALACE

Right Cross (MGM) and Tailspin (20th-Fox).

GRAND

Saddle Tramp (EU) with Joel McCrea.

STRAND

So Young, So Bad (UA) and Forbidden Journey (UA).

RAY PRESENTS

(Continued from Page 15)

BERT BROWN explained that the TV film could have been flashed upon the screen in sixty seconds, that is one minute, after the cameras were shooting. The delay in flashing upon the screen was a deliberate delay in order to permit Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox the time to get to seats in the theatre to view the results. Both star and producer were amazed at the results, the long shots were not too clear, due to the fact that the camera was two years old. Public reaction was one of interest, followed by a round of applause.

About a year ago, I made the climb to the Imperial Projection booths, with Mr. and Mrs. Steve Doane of Nova Scotia, and with Tom Daley as our guide, and we saw where a few hundred thousand dollars had been invested in what are called Instantaneous Television Projectors. Famous Players Canadian is prepared for Television if, as and when the CBC gives the Green Light.

The Academy of Radio Arts first sponsored Television Clinic had a large film representation, and I noticed an old-time friend of motion pictures, now in the field of Radio, with station CFRB, namely Harry Sedgewick.

FAMOUS PLAYERS Canadian, with Jimmy Nairn, head of Publicity and Advertising, was on the job for the Press-Breakfast for Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox. The TV at the Imperial was followed by a private luncheon. Oscar Hanson and Mrs. Hanson were hosts to a private dinner for the visitors, with guests, Mr. & Mrs. Geldsaler, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Arthur, Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Nairn, Mr. & Mrs. George Oulahan, and myself. The dinner was preceded by a cocktail party at which were

present John J. Fitzgibbons, and other executive members of Famous Players Canadian Corp., including the other guests who stayed to dinner.

Oscar Hanson and George Oulahan accompanied Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox to Montreal, where Tom Cleary, in charge of advertising and publicity for Consolidated, Arthur Hirsch, Alex Adilman, Willie Elman, Phil Maurice and other members of Consolidated were prepared for the visiting star and producer-director, the big opening show.

I must not forget to mention that the advance display advertisement on Odette was an unusual and most interesting one, headed, A Famous Columnist Tells About Odette. It was Margaret Aitken's Telegram feature column, Between You And Me, the opening paragraph which read, "It was a strange and exciting experience this week to watch a preview of the British film, Odette. "It was strange because the face and personality and gentle serenity of the real Odette kept coming back to me. It was exciting because I knew the incredible, fantastic experiences shown in the film were true.

"The directing in this film, the casting, Anna Neagle and Trevor Howard, the quiet understatement and honesty as to true facts all add up to a magnificent, thrilling story of an heroic woman."



STORAGE / ROUTE

foto nite

is

ARVIDA
CHICOUTIMI
JOLIETTE
L'ASSOMPTION
GRANBY
DRUMMONDVILLE
MONT JOLI
ROUYN
SHERBROOKE
GLENCOE
NEW BRUNSWICK
PARKHILL
PETERBOROUGH
SARNIA
SUDBURY
HARTLAND, N.B.
ARMOUTH
VER - COURT

LEVIS
LONGUEUIL
RIVIERE DU LOUP
MAGAN FALLS
DURHAM
ELIZABETH
MORRIS
PALMERSTON
TH PORCUP
HALIFAX
SHELBURNE
VER - COURT

ARVIDA
CHICOUTIMI
JOLIETTE
L'ASSOMPTION
GRANBY
DRUMMONDVILLE
MONT JOLI
ROUYN
SHERBROOKE
GLENCOE
NEW BRUNSWICK
PARKHILL
PETERBOROUGH
SARNIA
SUDBURY
HARTLAND, N.B.
ARMOUTH
VER - COURT

BIG! OVER \$2,000,000.00 IN CASH
PAID OUT TO DATE!

BIG! OVER TEN MILLION PARTICIPATE
IN FOTO-NITE YEARLY!

BIG! IN HUNDREDS OF SMALL TOWNS
AND BIG CITIES COAST-TO-COAST
INCLUDING
10 FAMOUS PLAYERS THEATRES, VANCOUVER
7 ODEON THEATRES, MONTREAL
14 ALLIED THEATRES, TORONTO
40 QUEBEC CINEMA CIRCUIT THEATRES

FOTO-NITE

TONIGHT



Released Exclusively in Canada by
STERLING FILMS LIMITED AND FOTO-NITE DISTRIBUTORS
HEAD OFFICE: 277 VICTORIA ST. TORONTO, ONTARIO